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2
3 MINUTES OF THE MERCER COUNTY AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT BOARD
4 MEETING HELD MONDAY MAY 5, 2008
5 IN THE EXTENSION SERVICE BUILDING
6 930 SPRUCE STREET, TRENTON, N.J.
7 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
8

9 I. CALL TO ORDER

10 Chairwoman Nancy Tindall called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.
11

12 II. COMPLIANCE STATEMENT

13 Pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, notice of this meeting was given to the Trenton Times,
14 Trentonian, Mercer County Clerk, and posted in the Mercer County Administration Building.
15

16 III. ROLL CALL

17 A. Voting Members:

18 Nancy Tindall, Chairwoman – Present
19 Steve Jany, Vice-Chairman - Present
20 Earl Tindall - Present
21 Peggy McNeill – Present
22 Charles Appelget – Present
23 Scott Ellis - Present
24 Frank D'Amico, Jr. – Present
25

26 B. Non -Voting Members:

27 Bill Agress, County Planning Board – Present
28 Jhilson Ortiz, Rutgers Cooperative Research and Extension – Present
29

30 C. Others Present:

31 Dan Pace, MCADB Secretary
32 Leslie Floyd, Assistant County Planning Director
33 Dan Knox, SADC representative
34

35 IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

36 Ms. Tindall asked for a motion to approve the April 7, 2008 minutes. The motion was made by
37 Mr. Appelget to approve the minutes as submitted, Mr. Jany seconded, and the minutes were
38 unanimously approved.
39

40 V. PUBLIC COMMENT

41 Mr. Agress expressed his appreciation for the CADB's work and told of his family farming roots
42 in the East Windsor area.
43

44 VI. CORRESPONDENCE

45 A. Letters from local governments and CADB's supporting the Department of Agriculture.

46 B. NJTPK unable to attend May meeting but will be able to in June. Report on farmers meetings
47 distributed to Board members.

48 C. Letter from Robbinsville Twp. to Ms. Floyd with JEM Stables RTF complaint. Members
49 discussed the letter and complaint. Staff distributed a RTF procedural diagram which clearly
50 showed that without an AMP or SSAMP related to the complaint (of which there are none),
51 then the appropriate procedure for the Board was to forward the complaint to the SADC.
52

53 Mr. Jany offered a motion for staff to forward the complaint to the SADC. Mr. Ellis seconded
54 the motion. On a voice vote, the motion was approved with Ms. Tindall abstaining.

55 VII. COMMITTEE AND STAFF REPORTS

1 A. SADC

2 1. Staff reported that the Non-ag use permitting rules were adopted by the SADC. The
3 SADC will soon be putting an application and FAQ's on its website. Staff will review the
4 application as to its applicability for use by the CADB since CADB approval will be the first
5 step for an applicant.

6
7 2. Den Hollander – the SADC took legal action and stopped construction work being done
8 on this preserved farm using the deed of easement restriction against damaging soil.

9
10 3. Mr. Knox updated the Board on a recent action by the SADC regarding an 8-year
11 program farm in Gloucester County that did not give the SADC right of first refusal for
12 purchase of the farm. The SADC negated the sale by the landowner.

13
14 B. Land Development Activity:

15 None

16
17 C. Status of Farmland Preservation Applications

18 • 2001 Round: One farm left; Weidel/Burd. No change in status.

19
20 • 2002 Round – One farm left
21 Zygmunt application still pending for issues involving the Turnpike and the historical
22 significance of the house.

23
24 • 2008 Round – Larry and Michelle Tindall cost-share application and Wash. Twp. Silver
25 Decoy assignment of DOE have been reviewed by the SADC with the Township's Silver
26 Decoy Deed needing a correction and the Tindall application is being questioned because
27 of a stream flowage easement held by DEP. Urdike/Herman Cost-Share Application will
28 be sent to the SADC soon.

29
30 • 2009 PIG – Board members began reviewing and discussing Scoring spreadsheets for
31 possible applications to the 2009 County PIG. They include: Gary Mount's U-pick Farm
32 on Van Kirk Road; Mercer/Verde properties (Hights on Old York Rd. and Briorholm on
33 Sawmill Rd.); Mercer/Sawmill Road Farm; and a potential application for the Diocese of
34 Trenton (Meshechek) and St. John's church (Batog) that the County has made an
35 acceptable offer for. This application will likely be sent to the SADC for Direct
36 Easement Purchase.

37
38 VIII. OLD BUSINESS

39 A. Farm Monitoring – Staff reported on the monitoring visits made to WW/Robbinsville,
40 Lawrence, and Hopewell farms. In Hopewell:

- 41 • Mr. Radvany has promised to mow his fields and said that the nearby equine operation,
42 which is using part of the north farm for pasture, will be using part of the south farm too.
43 • John Hart's farm is the same although he was cleaning the front in preparation for a
44 Mercer County Chamber of Commerce meeting to be held there on June 5th.
45 • There is a new owner of the former Woodward farm (southern portion) who will be
46 raising and training horses known as Norwegian Fjords.

47
48 B. Cherry Grove Farm, LLC: Municipally Approve Farmland Preservation Program (MAFPP) –
49 The Board's attorney has drafted an agreement for all the parties to execute and forwarded a
50 copy to William Hamill.

1 IX. NEW BUSINESS

- 2 A. Lyon's revised agricultural labor request – The Board took action on a new resolution
3 supporting a revised request by the Lyon's. The new request actually reverts back to their
4 original conceptual discussion with the Board earlier this year in which they proposed an
5 apartment above the proposed barn. There were no significant changes from that
6 discussion. On a motion by Mr. Ellis and seconded by Ms. McNeill, the Board
7 unanimously approved the new resolution (attached).
8

9 X. OTHER BUSINESS

10 None

11
12 XI. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

13 None

14
15 XIII. ADJOURNMENT AND NEXT MEETING

16 The meeting was adjourned at 9:25PM.
17

18
19 Respectfully submitted,
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22
23 Daniel Pace
24 MCADB, Secretary
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26 Date adopted:
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28 Attachments and related correspondence, if any, are made a part of the permanent record and are filed
29 with these minutes in the Agricultural Development Board Book located in the Mercer County Planning
30 Division Office. All copies are available upon request.